GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2907
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2006
CHANGE OF NAME OF PONDICHERRY
Singh Chaudhary Lal

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a)Whether the Government has received any demand from the people of Pondicherry to rename Pondicherry to Puducherry;

(b) If so, since when the people demanding to re-name it;

(c) Whether any specific reasons cited for this demand by the people of Union Territory;

(d) If so, whether the demand of the people is justified;

(e) If so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(f) Whether any other Union Territory has also decided to change its name; and

(g) If so, the details in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a)to(c) : Yes, Sir. The people of Pondicherry had been demanding, from time to time, renaming of Pondicherry to Puducherry as the territory was known in ancient times. It came to be known as Pondicherry only later by foreign rulers. The Legislative Assembly of Pondicherry had passed an official Resolution on 15th October, 1980 requesting the Govt. of India to pass necessary legislation for altering the name of Pondicherry.

(d)to(e) : Keeping in view the demand of the people of the Union Territory, the necessary legislation namely the Pondicherry (Alteration of Name) Act, 2006 has been enacted. The said Act came into force w.e.f. 1st October, 2006 thereby altering the name of Union Territory of `Pondicherry` as `Puducherry`.

(f) : No, Sir.

(g) : Does not arise.